

Message Text

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63
ORIGIN NEA-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011
DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:WNHOWELL:LF
APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:MDRAPER
----- 087098
P 122314Z NOV 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TEL AVIV 7606 ACTION SECSTATE 09 NOV 76

QUOTE

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AIDAC

E.O. 11652:
SUBJECT: CRS REQUEST TO PROVIDE SUPPLIES FOR SHIPMENT TO SOUTH
LEBANON

1. CRS REP SHEEHAN HAS ASKED EMBASSY TO INQUIRE
WHETHER AID WOULD APPROVE A "ONE SHOT DEAL" OF "IMMEDIATE
EMERGENCY RELIEF" BY CRS TO FIVE SOUTH LEBANESE VILLAGES,
WHO ARE CUT OFF COMPLETELY FROM THEIR REGULAR LEBANESE
SOURCES OF SUPPLY, CRS WOULD PROVIDE 1,000-1,500 BAGS OF
MILK POWDER, CSM, AND SOME BULGAR, SHEEHAN NOTED THAT
THESE PRODUCTS COULD BE SPARED WITHOUT AFFECTING CRS PRO-
GRAM. ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PROVIDED TO PUBLIC ISRAELI
"COMMITTEE FOR ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND WOUNDED IN
LEBANON", HEADED BY MARONITE MGRSR, HARFOUSCHE, COMMITTEE
HAS ALREADY RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM GOI MILITARY AUTHORI-
TIES TO SEND SUPPLIES TO LEBANON VIA "GOOD FENCE",

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2. EMBASSY NOTES THAT THE QUESTION OF EMERGENCY RELIEF

TO SOUTH LEBANON VIA ISRAEL HAS HEAVY POLITICAL OVERTONES,
AND SUGGESTS THAT THIS REQUEST BE SCRUTINIZED CLOSELY BY
AID/W IN CONJUNCTION WITH NEA. THE PRIVATE NATURE OF THE
CRS REQUEST MIGHT WELL BE OVERLOOKED, AND IT COULD BE SEEN
BY MANY IN THE REGION AS AN AMERICAN ENDORSEMENT OF THE
"GOOD FENCE" AND OF ISRAEL'S EFFORT TO BUILD BRIDGES TO
SOUTH LEBANON.

3. PLEASE ADVISE.
UNQUOTE KISSINGER.

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